SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES LONDON

¶ By the King.

A Proclamation prohibiting the making vp of Girdles, Belts, Hangers, and other Wares for mens wearing, or for Warre-ſeruice, with Braſſe-Buckles.

VPon Petition lately exhibited vnto His Highneſſe by the Company of Buckle-Forgers, Buckle-Filers, and Trimmers and Dreſſers of Buckles, members of the Societie of Girdlers, London, informing His Highneſſe, that Buckles for Girdles, Hangers, Belts, or other Wares for mens wearing, and Warre-ſeruice, were wont to bee well and truely forged, and made of Iron, in which Trade, the ſayd Company haue well and honeſtly gotten their liuings, and thereupon haue maintained themſelues and Families in decent order, and that of late times, there is a ſubtill way found out by Caſting of Buckles in Braſſe, in deceit of his Highneſſe Subiects:

His Highneſſe was pleaſed to referre the conſideration hereof, to the Maior and Aldermen of the Citie of London, who appointed Commiſſioners to call both ſides before them, and to examine the grieuances alleadged; And vpon hearing both ſides, haue made certificate to his Highneſſe, That thoſe Buckles which are Caſt in Braſſe, are brittle, and not ſo ſeruiceable as thoſe made of Iron, and that there are not aboue foure or ſixe perſons within London, that make and Caſt thoſe Buckles in Braſſe, who doe not vſe it as the Whole Trade of their liuing, but doe other worke, whereby they rayſe a good competencie of liuelihood, and that there are three hundred perſons whoſe onely meanes to maintaine themſelues and Families, is by Forging and making Iron Buckles and Harneſſe, and that thoſe

who cast the braſſe Buckles can make more in one day, then ten of thoſe that make the Iron Buckles can doe, by reaſon of their lightneſſe, and that if the Braſſe Buckles which are brittle and vnſeruiceable ſhould bee tolerated, thoſe great number of poore men that make the Iron Buckles (which are much more ſeruiceable) with their families are like to bee impouerished.

His Highneſſe to mainetaine a multitude of poore Artizans that hereby gaine their liuings, and that his people may not bee deceiued, Doth by this his Highneſſe Proclamation ſtrictly inhibite all perſons whatſoeuer, That they doe not at any time hereafter make vp any braſſe Buckles in Girdles, Belts, Hangers, or other Wares vſed for mens Wearing, or for Warre ſeruice, or vent, or put to ſale any ſuch Girdles, Belts, or Hangers, or other Wares hereafter to be made vp with braſſe Buckles within this his Highneſſe Realme of England, vpon paine of his Maieſties high Indignation, and diſpleaſure, and ſuch further paines, and penalties as by the Lawes, and Statutes of this Realme, and by his Maieſties Prerogatiue Royall, can, or may bee inflicted vpon Contemners of his Maieſties Proclamations, and Royall Commands.

And his Highneſſe doeth by theſe preſents giue power, and authority, and expreſſe Commandement to all his Iudges, Iuſtices, his Atturney Generall for the time being, Maiors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, Iuſtices of Peace, Headboroughes, Conſtables, and other Officers whatſoeuer, whom it may concerne, That they and euery of them, diligently attend the due execution of this his Highneſſe Proclamation, and vpon complaint made, proceede in his Highneſſe Court of Starre Chamber, or elſewhere, againſt ſuch as ſhall diſobey, or impugne the ſame, to the end the delinquents may receiue condigne puniſhment according to their demerits, as they tender Our Pleaſure, and will auoyd the contrary, at their vtmoſt perills.

Giuen at the Court at Whitehall the twelfth day of Ianuary, in the eighth yeere of the Reigne of our Soueraigne Lord, CHARLES, by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c.

God ſaue the King.

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